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Socialism and Co-operative Enterprises

NEW BOOKS

ADLER, M. *Wegweiser. Studien zur Geistesgeschichte des Sozialismus.* (Stuttgart: Dietz. 1914. Pp. vii, 248. 2 M.)

CROCE, B. *Historical materialism and the economics of Karl Marx.* Translated by C. M. MEREDITH. (New York: Macmillan. 1914. Pp. 188. \$1.25.)

To be reviewed.

DAVIES, E. *The case for railway nationalisation.* (London: Collins Clear-Type Press. Pp. 262.)

After outlining, in his first chapter, the general argument in favor of railway nationalization, the author discusses, in succeeding chapters, the early history of British railways, combinations and agreements, relations to traders, to passengers, to employees, to investors, nationalization in other countries, etc. Much is found in the management of the British companies to criticise and in the management of continental railways by government to commend. Statistics are presented to show that safety is greater on some of the continental state railways than on British railways.

The author then takes up the standard objections to railway nationalization, such as the contention that state management is relatively inefficient, that the political influence of a large body of state employees is likely to be a corrupting influence, that initiative and progress would be less on state managed lines, etc. Not on all of these points does Mr. Davies make a good case for himself. Thus, the contention of the opponents of government operation that political influence would be used to affect wages and labor conditions at the general expense, is not answered by the assertion that railway employees of private companies have votes and may attempt to use these votes to influence their economic conditions.

Yet, on the whole, the book presents the arguments for railway nationalization not ineffectively, and presents them with some regard for what is to be said on the other side.

HARRY G. BROWN.

DAVIES, E. *The collectivist state in the making.* (London: Bell. 1914. 5s.)

DAWSON, W. H. *Municipal life and government in Germany.* (New York: Longmans. 1914. \$3.75.)

GEHRIG, H. *Die Begründung des Prinzips der Sozialreform. Eine literarische Untersuchung über Manchestertum und Kathedersozialismus.* (Jena: Fischer. 1914. Pp. v, 381. 8 M.)

GUESDE, J. *Cà et là. De la propriété, la commune, le collectivisme devant la 10^e chambre, la question des loyers, les grands magasins.* (Paris: Rivière. 1914. Pp. 274. 3.50 fr.)

The author of this collection of essays is a French socialist, perhaps better known by his *Droits de l'Homme*. They were written

from 1875 to 1888 and in different countries. Under *De la Propriété* are defined the conditions which, created by capitalistic society, are demanding social transformation. *La Commune* tells of the proletarian struggle of the nineteenth century, where were laid the foundations of the party which gave rise to the Socialist party; of the uselessness of the proposed remedies of other parties for the diverse questions brought up by the socialists; and of the superiority of the socialistic solution. Other essays, not indicated in the heading, tell of the crises and their social effect, of women in industry, of the rise of labor unions and the work of the Council of Experts.

The defense of Guesde and others before the international socialist labor congress of 1878 is given along with reports of the socialist labor congresses of Marseilles and Roubaix. The essays on the problems of rent and large-scale production give the usual socialist discussions of these questions. With the exception of these last two chapters the work describes, in a fragmentary way, the socialist labor movement, and as such is indispensable to those who would keep abreast of the movement which Guesde believes is carrying the working classes to a social revolution.

J. L. LEONARD.

HARTLEY, E. R. *Rounds with the socialists*. (London: Twentieth Century Press. 1914. Pp. 120. 6d.)

HILLQUIT, M. and RYAN, J. A. *Socialism, promise or menace?* (New York: Macmillan. 1914. Pp. xiii, 270. \$1.25.)

This debate between Mr. Hillquit and Dr. Ryan was first published in *Everybody's Magazine*. It presents the economic and social arguments for and against socialism in a clear, consecutive, and distinct manner. Both debaters are forceful and vigorous in their charges and counter charges and this lends new interest to the material. The customary indictment of the present economic system with its social effects and socialism as the only remedy, opens the body of the debate. It is refuted as being overdrawn, and the present not hopeless. Marx's philosophy of history, the class struggle, and surplus value, are upheld by Mr. Hillquit and declared by Dr. Ryan to be exploded doctrines, refuted by subsequent event, aprioristic and fatalistic. Socialist morality is immoral for it perverts the individual, the family, and civil mortality. Socialism is irreligious, claims Dr. Ryan, and is non-religious according to Mr. Hillquit. Here the argument comes dangerously close to the personal in which Roman Catholic ideas and ideals are advanced and denounced to the exclusion of authorities of other religious denominations.

The work, as a whole, makes delightful reading on the most debatable points of socialism.

J. L. LEONARD.

McCLENON, W. H. *A compromise with socialism. Some practical suggestions*. (Los Angeles: The author. 1914. Pp. viii, 87. 50c.)

MELVIN, F. J. *Socialism as the sociological idea*. (New York: Eaton-Ives-Sturgis-Walton. 1914. \$1.25.)

MILLS, E. *The legislative program of the Socialist party; record of the work of the Socialist representatives in the state legislatures of the United States, 1899-1913; with account of efforts of the party in direct legislation.* (Chicago: Socialist Party Nat. Off. 1914. 25c.)

ORAGE, A. R. *National guilds. An inquiry into the wage system and the way out.* (London: Bell. 1914. Pp. 378. 5s.)

SPARGO, J. *Socialism and motherhood.* (New York: Huebsch. 1914. Pp. 128. 60c.)

STATISTICAL COMMITTEE OF THE ANTI-SOCIALIST UNION OF GREAT BRITAIN. *Socialism exposed.* (London: Anti-Socialist Union. 1914.)

TOTOMIANZ, V. *Theorie, Geschichte und Praxis der Konsumentenorganisation.* (Berlin: Prager. 1914. 7 m.)

WEHBERG, H. *Die Bodenreform im Lichte des humanistischen Sozialismus.* (Leipzig: Duncker & Humblot. 1913. Pp. xii, 167. 5 M.)

A collection of reprints of four essays written in the early nineties by the late Dr. Wehberg, and published, with a biographical sketch of the author, in commemoration of the twenty-fifth year of the "Bund für Bodenbesitzreform." In the first essay the author outlines a program of humanistic socialism, which is a sort of Fabian socialism, having as its primary aim the nationalization of land. In the second essay free trade is advocated as a basis for human brotherhood, but Dr. Wehberg did not approve of the theories and ideals of the Manchester school. The third essay is an excellent argument in favor of the public ownership of mines, while in the last section of the book, "Die Wohnungsfrage," the housing problem in the large cities is attributed to the great migration to the cities due to the private ownership of large landed estates and the exclusion of the farmer from the soil. Dr. Wehberg believed that with the elimination of the private ownership of land and the reduction of the rent to a rate equal to the true economic rent of the land, the tide of migration would turn back again to the rural districts.

G. L. ARNER.

Bibliography of Robert Owen, the socialist, 1771-1858. (Aberystwyth: Nat. Library of Wales. 1914. Pp. 54. 1s.)

Brief of arguments against public ownership. Three volumes. (New York: Am. Tel. & Tel. Co. 1914. Loose leaf, no paging.)

Manual on coöperation. (Albany: N. Y. Dept. Agr. 1914. Pp. 33.)

Report of proceedings of the ninth congress of the international co-operative alliance, held at Glasgow, August 25-28, 1913. (London: King. 3s.)